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(*f*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of his question No. 726 at the meeting of 21st March 1933 in which the reasons for levying a uniform rate of Rs. 10-8-0 an acre have been explained.

(*g*) & (*h*) The Government have not the information but have called for it.

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—"May I ask whether the Government are aware that the zamindari assessment in the Polavaram Island is about Rs. 11 and when this Rs. 10-8-0 as water-rate is added, whether the ryots will be able to take water at this cost and cultivate their lands?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—"I am not aware what rate is charged by the zamindars on dry lands. The ryots agreed to pay the rate for water of Rs. 10-8-0 an acre if the project was undertaken. As I stated on a previous occasion in this House, we are waiting for the final accounts of the cost of this project and we will then consider whether it is possible to reduce the rates of water-cess and still keep the project remunerative."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—"Quite apart from the final settlement of the water-rates, may I ask whether the Government will consider the advisability of reducing the rates temporarily, at least till the prices rise?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—"Under the orders already issued by the Government, the ryots receive a suspension of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the water-cess during the current year. I cannot admit that the ryots cannot raise paddy at this water-rate, for the simple reason that a large area—9,000 acres, I think—has been brought under irrigation under this project. This is far in excess of what we anticipated."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—"May I know whether the Government will inquire whether the existing zamindari rate is not Rs. 11 an acre, and whether an addition of Rs. 10-8-0 as water-rate will not make it impossible for the ryots to cultivate wet crops?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—"I am not prepared to inquire into the zamindari rates."

Income due to the imposition of water-tax at a flat rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per acre.

* 499 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the increased income to the Government is in Guntur district, talukwar, owing to the imposition of a flat rate of Rs. 6-4-0 per acre as water-tax; and

(*b*) what the increase in income is under the enhanced water-rate in the whole Presidency, districtwar?

A.—(*a*) The Government have not the information.

(*b*) It is not clear to what enhanced rates of water-cess the hon. Member is referring. There has been no general enhancement of the rates of water-cess for the whole Presidency.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*a*), may I know whether the hon. Member will be pleased to call for the required information and place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I will consider the hon. Member's suggestion."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know what additional revenue the Government have got in each district by altering the existing rate into a flat rate?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I have already stated I do not understand to what enhancement the hon. Member is referring."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"As a matter of fact, in Tanjore they have put the rate at Rs. 7–2–0, in Guntur they have put it at Rs. 6–4–0. For each delta they have fixed a flat rate. I want to know what is the increase in revenue that the Government have realized by introducing this flat rate?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I am not sure that the differential water-rate system is in force in Tanjore."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—"May I know whether there are not lands which under the differential water-rate system were paying Rs. 3 only but which are now being charged Rs. 6–4–0—an increase of over 100 per cent—and whether the ryots of these lands have not been particularly hard hit?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The ryots of these lands have been particularly fortunate in having had to pay such a low water-rate for so long."

Extension of kistbandi from three to four months.

* 500 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal for raising the number of instalments for payment of the land revenue from three to four in all places where there are only three instalments from January to March?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I ask whether the Government will be pleased to increase the number of instalments from 3 to 4, considering the sad plight of the ryots?"